ASSOCIATION of TEACHERS OF MATHEMATICS IN MAINE ATOMIM Grant Incentives for Teachers (GIFT) Program Application

Name(s): Peggy Weeks [ATOMIM Member #5577760]
Organization: Oceanside High School – West, RSU #13
Mailing Address: 47 Valley Street, Thomaston, ME 04861
e-mail address: pweeks@rsu13.org
Project Title: Increasing student engagement using an iPad
Grade Level/Courses Affected: 9th grade algebra 1
Project Abstract:

The purpose of the project is to increase student involvement and engagement in their learning. The iPad will allow students to share their work by displaying it to the class through the data projector so that discussion and immediate feedback will be available. Students will also be able to use various apps to enhance their learning.

Project Description:

The purpose of this project is to create a classroom environment in which my 9th grade algebra 1 students are motivated and encouraged to take a more active role in their learning. My plan is to use an app, such as ShowMe Interactive Whiteboard or Penultimate so that students are able to share work and explanations of problems with the entire class. This can be done by wirelessly connecting the iPad through the use of apple tv with the data projector. I also envision that the iPad can be passed from student to student in small group work so that multiple students can participate in problem solving, discussing, and making sense of mathematics.

I plan to evaluate the project through principal observation of my classes and student input. I will also maintain a written summary of lessons involving the use of the iPad and my perceived effectiveness of these lessons.

Project Budget:

16GB iPad	\$499
Apple tv	\$99
Ipad case	\$89
Apps	\$ 50

Total \$737

I have received approval from my principal that funds of \$237 will be available to support the project. Those funds would be used to purchase a protective case, apple tv, and apps for the iPad. The apple tv is needed in order to make the iPad interact wirelessly with the data projector.

Project Dissemination:

The four mathematics teachers in my building regularly meet to discuss issues related to our curriculum and students. I will share the information on the use of the iPad project with my colleagues in addition to accepting and implementing their feedback. I will also share this information with other teachers in my district. I plan to write an article for the ATOMIM newsletter to summarize my project.

Project State/National Standards:

The focus of this project is to increase student engagement in the classroom. Many of the content standards will be addressed in specific lessons. However, the project mainly addresses the Common Core State Standards for Mathematical Practice, which emphasizes the necessity of students to actively pursue their understanding of mathematics.

Although all of the CCSS for Mathematical Practice will be involved in this project, the following are the most relevant:

Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

Students will learn to critique the reasoning of others and decide whether they make sense by listening and asking clarifying questions.

Attend to precision.

Students will have the opportunity to share their solutions with their peers and communicate clearly and precisely with others.